Demand and supply of food commodities

2639. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the demand and supply of top ten major food commodities in the country in a year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the country has to depend upon import and other sources of supply beyond its production, if so, the details of demand and supply through production and other sources;

(c) whether it is also a fact that country would very soon depend largely upon import of foodgrains in the light of several dimensions developing; and

(d) whether such a situation would be good, safe and desirable for the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Following table gives the supply in terms of production of top ten major food commodities in the country in 2006-07 (4th advance estimates):

(Million Tonnes)

Crop	Production	Crop	Production
Rice	92.76	Groundnut	4.91
Wheat	74.89	Soyabean	8.86
Pulses	14.23	Rapeseed and Mustard	7.10
Coarse Cereals	34.25	Oilseeds	23.88
Foodgrains	216.13	Sugarcane	345.31

As per the Planning Commission Working Group on demand projections for the Tenth Five Year Plan, the demands for cereals, pulses, foodgrains and oilseeds based on the normative approach were estimated at 203.71 million tonnes, 17.71 million tonnes, 221.42 million tonnes and 36.58 million tonnes respectively during 2006-07. The gap between demand and supply of pulses and edible oils is met through imports. The country imported 2.26 million tonnes of pulses and 4.22 million tonnes of edible oils in 2006-07.

(c) and (d) To increase agricultural production, Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* Integrated Cereals Development Programmes (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals are in place from October 2000. To increase the productivity of oilseeds, pulses and maize, Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is in place since 01.04.2004.

The Government of India has recently approved two schemes *viz.* (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains, and (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS) for incentivising the States to invest more in agriculture sector which, in turn, is envisaged to improve the over all growth of the sector.